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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /051 W
---------- 036100
R 271625Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6525
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SP
SUBJECT: NEW COUNCILORS OF THE REALM

1. TWO OF THE THREE EXISTING VACANCIES ON THE 17-MEMBER COUNCIL OF THE REALM WERE FILLED ON JULY 23. CORTES (PARLIAMENT) MEMBERS REPRESENTING LOCAL ADMINISTRATION ELECTED MIGUEL RAMON IZQUIERDO, MAYOR OF VALENCIA AND CORTEX MEMBER, TO FILL THEIR VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL, WHILE CORTES "FAMILY" MEMBERS ELECTED ALVARO DE LA PUERTA QUINTERO, "FAMILY" MEMBER FOR LOGRONO, TO REPRESENT THEM ON THE COUNCIL. THE ONE REMAINING VACANCY IS THAT PERTAINING TO UNIVERSITY RECTORS.

2. THE ELECTION OF RAMON AND DE LA PUERTA IS VERY MUCH IN TUNE WITH
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THE COMPOSITION OF THE SUAREZ GOVT ITSELF. THE FORMER, A MEMBER

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OF THE UNION OF THE SPANISH PEOPLE (UPDE), AND THE LATTER, A MEMBER OF THE SPANISH DEMOCRATIC UNION (UDE), REPRESENT THE TWO POLITICAL GROUPINGS WITH THE STRONGEST PRESENCE IN THE GOVT. HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT TH UDPE LEADERSHIP AND SUAREZ (UDPE PRESIDENT AT THE END OF FRANCO'S DAYS) HAVE MOVED APART, WITH THE UDPE BECOMING MORE RIGHTIST IN OUTLOOK. FORMER PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER SILVA MUNOZ AND HIS RIVAL, THE CURRENT MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY AND SUAREZ CONFIDANT OSORIO, ARE THE PRIME MOVERS BEHIND UDE, A CONSERVATIVE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC GROUPING.

3. RAMON'S VICTORY ALSO RESULTS FROM THE FACT THAT FORMER INTERIOR MINISTER FRAGA IS NOW--FOR THE MOMENT--ON THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN. RAMON DEFEATED BY 8 VOTES (38-30) MADRID MAYOR JUAN DE ARESPACOCHAGA, A MEMBER OF FRAGA'S DEMOCRATIC REFORM (RD) GROUPING, A VICTORY NOTEWORTHY BECAUSE THIS PARTICULAR COUNCIL SEAT TRADITIONALLY HAS GONE TO THE MAYOR OF MADRID. (IN FACT, THE MAYOR OF SEVILLE TOLD US THE REVOLT OF THE REGIONS HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE OUTCOME.)

4. THE CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE FAMILY MEMBER SEAT ON THE COUNCIL PRODUCED AN UNPRECEDENTED CONTRETEMPS, WHEN FAMILY MEMBER FOR GUIPUZCOA MANUEL MARIA ESCUDERO READ A PETITION, SIGNED BY 11 FAMILY MEMBERS, CALLING FOR NOTHING LESS THAN THE ABOLITION OF THE ANTIQUATED COUNCIL OF THE REALM. ESCUDERO'S PROPOSAL WAS MET WITH DISCOMFORT AND PALPABLE HOSTIL-ITY, AND HE WAS RULED OUT OF ORDER.
STABLER

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TAGS: PINT, SP, (IZQUIERDO, MIGUEL RAMON), (DE LAPUERTA QUINTERO, ALVARO)
To: STATE
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